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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/065,771	11/18/2002	Sreenath Mambakkam	6284.P007	2404
8791	7590	03/05/2004	EXAMINER	
BLAKELY SOKOLOFF TAYLOR & ZAFMAN 12400 WILSHIRE BOULEVARD, SEVENTH FLOOR LOS ANGELES, CA 90025			FUREMAN, JARED	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2876	

DATE MAILED: 03/05/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/065,771	Applicant(s) MAMBAKKAM ET AL.	
	Examiner Jared J. Fureman	Art Unit 2876	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 01 December 2003.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-21 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-21 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 18 November 2002 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Receipt is acknowledged of the amendment, filed on 12/1/2003, which has been entered in the file. Claims 1-21 are pending.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 1, 3, 4, 6, 7, 10, 12, 13, 15, 16, 19, and 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Pua et al (US 2002/0178307 A1).

Pua et al teaches a memory card interface apparatus (adapter 10), system, and method comprising: a plurality of memory card interfaces (30), with at least a subset of the plurality of memory card interfaces configured to interface with a memory card of a first type (CompactFlash, Smart Media, SDIMMC, Memory Stick, etc.), the plurality of memory card interfaces accessible in parallel (the memory card control interface 20 may access the memory card interfaces in parallel); wherein at least one of the memory card interfaces includes an indicator (35) identifying a status of an operation for a respective memory reader interface; wherein the indicator includes a light (the indicator 35 may be an LED) indicating data is being written to a card in the respective memory card interface (the indicators 35 indicate when a card is being accessed); wherein

Art Unit: 2876

mechanical pins, of at least one of the plurality of memory card interfaces, are inserted directly into a backbone of the apparatus (in that pins of a memory card will connect to pins of the interfaces); wherein a first subset (one of the interfaces 30, for example) of the plurality of memory card interfaces are configured to interface with a memory card of a first type and a second subset (a different one of the interfaces 30, for example) of the plurality of memory card interfaces are configured to interface with a memory card of a second type (interfaces are provided for a plurality of types of memory cards, such as CompactFlash, Smart Media, SDIMMC, Memory Stick, etc.), wherein the first and second subset of memory card interfaces are accessible in parallel; a controller circuit (20) and a bus (a high-speed bus) coupled to the controller circuit (see figure 1, paragraphs 22-32, and 37-39).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 5 and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Pua et al in view of the admitted prior art.

The teachings of Pua et al have been discussed above.

Pua et al fails to specifically teach wherein at least one of the memory card interfaces is configured to interface with a Write Once Read Many (WORM) memory card.

The admitted prior art teaches that WORM memory cards may be used to create archives of media files (see paragraph 7 of the specification).

In view of the admitted prior art, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to include, with the apparatus, system, and method as taught by Pua et al, wherein at least one of the memory card interfaces is configured to interface with a WORM memory card, in order to allow users to create archives of media files.

5. Claims 8 and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Pua et al in view of Itou et al (US 6,010,066).

The teachings of Pua et al have been discussed above.

Pua et al fails to specifically teach wherein the apparatus includes a text display, wherein text on the display is manipulated using Simple Display Device commands.

Itou et al teaches a memory card interface apparatus and system (see figure 1), comprising a plurality of memory card interfaces (for cards 100, 110, and 120), a text display device (80), the text display device being a simple display device (in that the display device 80 is a small LCD for displaying text) (see figure 1 and column 4 lines 15-56).

In view of Itou et al's teachings, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to include, with the apparatus, system, and method as taught by Pua et al, wherein the apparatus includes a text display, wherein text on the display is manipulated using Simple Display Device commands, in order to

Art Unit: 2876

allow the user to view any text stored in a memory card, and thus, verify the contents of the memory card.

6. Claims 2, 11, and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Pua et al in view of Le et al (US 2003/0095386 A1).

The teachings of Pua et al have been discussed above.

Pua et al fails to specifically teach wherein at least one of the memory card interfaces is configured to read a plurality of different memory card types.

Le et al teaches a memory card interface apparatus (10), system, and method including a memory card interface (slot 13) that is configured to read a plurality of different memory card types (the slot 13 can accommodate any one of Smart Media memory card, Memory Stick flash memory, Secure Digital memory card, and MultiMedia flash memory cards) (see figures 1-5 and paragraphs 25 and 26).

In view of Le et al's teachings, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to include, with the apparatus, system, and method as taught by Pua et al, wherein at least one of the memory card interfaces is configured to read a plurality of different memory card types, in order to eliminate restrictions as to which memory card must be placed into which interface, thus providing a more flexible system.

7. Claims 9 and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Pua et al as modified by Itou et al further in view of Le et al.

The teachings of Pua et al as modified by Itou et al have been discussed above.

Pua et al as modified by Itou et al fails to specifically teach wherein the text on the display is manipulated using Small Computer System Interface commands.

The teachings of Le et al have been discussed above. Le et al also teaches the use of the Small Computer Systems Interface (SCSI) (see paragraph 23).

In view of Le et al's teachings, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to include, with the apparatus, system, and method as taught by Pua et al as modified by Itou et al, wherein the text on the display is manipulated using Small Computer System Interface commands, in order to provide compatibility with other devices using the Small Computer System Interface.

Response to Arguments

8. Applicant's arguments filed 12/1/2003 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

In response to applicant's argument that Pua et al does not teach or suggest that the multiple card adapter 10 can provide parallel access to the interfaces 30 (see pages 9-10 of the amendment filed on 12/1/2003), in Pua et al the interfaces 30 are accessible in parallel in that they are connected to the memory card control interface 20 in parallel. The memory card control interface 20 includes a memory card switching circuit for managing data and command flow to the memory cards, and switches between card interfaces depending on which type of card is being accessed (see paragraphs 32, 37, and 38). Since the memory card control interface 20 is capable of accessing specific interfaces 30, the interfaces 30 are connected to the memory card control interface 20 in parallel. If the interfaces 30 were connected to the memory card control interface 20

Art Unit: 2876

in serial, the memory card control interface 20 would have to access one interface type (for example, Smart Media Card, the second drive in paragraph 37) while sending control signals through at least one second interface type (for example, CompactFlash Card, the first drive in paragraph 37). Thus, it is clear that the interfaces 30 are connected to the memory card control interface 20 in parallel. Therefore, the teachings of Pua et al meet the claimed limitation that the interfaces are accessible in parallel.

Conclusion

9. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Shih (US 2003/0229745 A1), Li (US 6,681,991 B1), and Teng et al (US 2003/0178486 A1) all teach card interface apparatus, systems, and methods.

10. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jared J. Fureman whose telephone number is (571) 272-2391. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:00 am - 4:30 PM M-T, and every other Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael G. Lee can be reached on (571) 272-2398. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

February 10, 2004

Jared J. Fureman
JARED J. FUREMAN
PRIMARY EXAMINER